

# Memo

**To:** ILA Executive Board  
**From:** Cheri Rendler and Erin Hasler  
**Date:** March 31, 2006  
**Re:** Legislative Committee Report for April 7th Board Meeting

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The legislative session has been very busy this year for the Legislative Committee and the Idaho Library Community. Highlights of the session since the last Board meeting (January 18<sup>th</sup>) are listed below”

## **Legislative Breakfast:**

- 45 Legislators were given their packets (the rest were delivered to their boxes)
- 50 librarians in attendance

## **Presentations – “Gift Book & LiLI-U Demonstrations”:**

- Wednesday January 18<sup>th</sup>, 2006 at 12 pm: lunch with JFAC chairs Representative Bell and Senator Cameron, John Watts, and ILA co-chair Erin Hasler. This lunch was followed-up with both committee chairs “stopping by” the breakfast for individual demonstrations of LiLI-U.
- Thursday January 19<sup>th</sup>, 2006 at 8:30am with House Speaker Newcomb and the Senate Pro Tem Geddes, John Watts (lobbyist), legislative chairs, ILA President Val Fenske, ILA Vice-President Tamra Hawley-House.

## **Proactive Legislative Work:**

- Efforts made by the legislative committee and the greater Idaho Library Community for state support of the LiLI-U statewide catalog resulted in JFAC approving \$300,000 continued funding to be included in the Education budget.
- Legislative directories were mailed to libraries across the state

## **Reactive Legislative Work:**

- The legislative committee and the greater Idaho Library Community worked consistently on numerous proposed bills which would have an impact on our library community. Most of these bills were property tax bills and included: HB 480 (rolling back levy rates), HB 508 (50% value in annexation), HB 720 (postcard notification for taxing districts). There was a great deal of effort put forth by the Idaho Library Community network during the past few months through calls, emails, letters, personal visits, and testimonies to legislators. These efforts were invaluable in passing on our message to the legislators.

## **Next Steps:**

- Law Revision Task Force meeting (conference call) to be scheduled for the end of April to debrief the session and make preliminary plans and strategy for the 2005 session.